

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

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號二月二年十九百八十一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1890.

日四初年二月寅庚

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

Intimations.

DRUGS
BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,
(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1811)

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.

Wholesale and Retail Druggists.
ANALYTICAL &
FAMILY DISPENSERS AND
GENEALOGISTS.
PATENT MEDICINE PROPRIETORS.
SEEDSMEN.
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
MANUFACTURERS OF ABRATED
WATERS

By STEAM MACHINERY.
CIGAR IMPORTERS, &c., &c.

In submitting an abridged Synopsis of a few
of the chief lines of goods included in our business,
we beg to state that we import Drugs,
Chemicals, and Goods of every kind of the best
description only—no other quality is kept in
stock.

Our long experience and intimate acquaintance
with the Trade, and the best sources of supply,
enable us to purchase direct from the Producers
on the very best terms, and thus give
us an advantage which enables us to offer
our constituents the benefit of a considerable reduction
in the price of all our Specimens, compared
with similar articles sold elsewhere.

We wished to let you understand that our prices cannot be beaten by any other firm
in the Colony, and we trust it will soon become generally known that, quality for quality,
our prices are equal to, if not superior to, those
of all rival concerns, favorably with local rates, and in most instances with
those ruling at home.

Experienced qualified English Assistants
only are employed in the preparation and
dispensing of Medicines.

Analysis of all Kinds.—We are in a position
to well attend to the interests of our Clients.

FAMILY & DOMESTIC MEDICINES,
AND OTHER GOODS AND APPLIANCES
KEPT IN STOCK.

NURSERY AND INVALIDS'
REQUISITES.

Infants' Feeding Bottles, Datto Brushes
and Teats, Food Warmers, Lamps, and
Night-lights.

Invalids' Feeding Cups and Tubes.
Bronch Releavers, Nipple Shields, Violent
Powder, Puff Boxes, and Puffs.

Infants' Food of all kinds.
Brandy's Extract of Beef, Mutton, Chio-
ken, Venl, &c.

Liquor's Extract of Beef.
Valentine's Meat Juices.

Cod-liver Oil, Corn Flour, Bermuda
Arrowroot, Russian Isinglass, Prepared
Gros, Genuino Mustard, &c.

MEDICAL AND DOMESTIC
APPLIANCES, &c.

Chloro Belts, Metal and Earthenware
Bad Pans, Disinfectants and Medicated
Toilet Papers, Fumigating Pastilles, Va-
porizers, &c., &c.

Southall's Sanitary Towels for Ladies'
use.

Ear and Enema Syringes, Bougies, Ca-
theters, Pessaries, Trusses, Elastic Silk
Stockings, Kid Caps, Anklets, Wrist-
lets, and Bandages of all kinds.

Urinals, Male or Female, in Glass,
Earthenware, and India Rubber.

Water-proof Clothing.
Ice Bag for Head and Spine.

Bronch Releavers, Hot Water Bottles.

Cold and Lump Protectors.

Adhesive Plaster, Court Disto.

Gum and Bunion Plasters.

List, Oiled Silk, Gutta Percha Tissue.

Japanese Hot Boxes, Air Cushions.

Mustard Leaves, Spugno Pline.

Linseed Meal for Poultices, Poultices

Bags, &c., &c.

Minim Measures, Medicinal Glasses and
Spoon, Champagne and Soda Water Taps,
Seltzerges, &c.

Breath Baths, Droppers and Douches,

Throat Sprays, Inhalers and Insufflators,

Stethoscopes, Hypodermic Syringes.

THERMOMETERS, &c.

Chemical, Clinical, and Bath Thermome-
ters.

Sixth Minimum and Maximum Ther-
mometers, Alcachometers, Barometers,

Galvanometers, Hydrometers, Iactometers,

Uroscopists, Specific Gravity Bottles,

Flask, Test Tubes, Test Papers, &c., &c.

SUN SPECTACLES AND GOOGLES
with Blue, Green, and Smoked Glasses, Eye
Preservers and Shades of all kinds.

DENTAL AND SURGICAL INSTRU-
MENTS.

Enamel Cornets, and Truncks, Convoca-
tion Tubes, Corn Knives and Knives, Camel Hair Pens, Ligature Catgut, Silver
Wire, Practitioners' Knives and Scissors,

Pocket Dressing Cases and Instruments,

Probing, Respirators, Dispensing Scales

and Weights.

MEDICAL CHESTS.

Medicine Chests for family and travellers'

use.

Ship's Medicine Chests fitted in accord-
ance with the regulations of the Board of

Trade.

Medicine Chests refitted complete at a

few hours notice.

Medicine Chest Guides containing a list
of useful Domestic Medicines with their

Properties and Doses.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES.

Magneto-Electric Machines for the Cure

of Nervous Diseases, Neuralgia, Rheuma-

tism, &c.

Electric Hair Brushes for preventing

hairs.

Electrostatic Bolts for Dyspepsia, Rheu-

matism, Lumbago, &c.

Electric Bell, Batteries, Pusles, In-

dicators, Wire, and appliances generally.

HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINES.

We always have on hand a varied assort-
ment of those kinds in most general de-

mand.

VACCINE.

We import regular supplies of Pork

Fresh-Calf Lymph by every Mail from

England.

Vaccine Luncels, and Vaccination Shields

WATER FILTERS.

Silicated Carbon Filter Co.'s and

Mawson & Swan's (Patent).

In Glass and Terra Cotta for Table use.

Equipment for ordinary Domestic Pur-

poses.

Portable Filters for Travellers.

Intimations.

TOILET REQUISITES.
JOSEPH ROGERS & Sons, "SHEPPARD'S"
Razors, Scissars, and Pinchers.

EAR TOOTH, and Nail Picks and Trim-

mers.

Hand Mirrors, Toilet Sets.

Smoking Batches of all kinds.

Glove, and Patent Drying Bottles.

Hair, Tooth, Nail, Bath, and Shaving

Brushes in great variety.

Cosmetiques, Hair Lotions and Pomades.

Tooth Pastas, Powders, and Soaps.

Toilet Bath Gloves, and Straps, Loofahs.

Toilet Cup and Honey Comb.

Bath and Toilet Sponges of all sizes.

By Order,

Intimations.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Twenty-First Ordinary MEETING
of SHAREHOLDERS in the Com-
pany will be held at the Office of the Directors,
No. 5, Queen's Road, Victoria, on MON-

DAY, the 24th February, at 12 o'clock, for the pur-
pose of receiving a Statement of Accounts, and

the Report of the Directors for the year

ended 31st December, 1889.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will

be CLOSED from the 11th to the 24th

Instant, both days inclusive.

By Order,

GEO. L. TOMLIN,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, February 1, 1890. 201

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Twenty-First Ordinary Annual
MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Com-
pany will be held at the Office of the Directors,
No. 5, Queen's Road, Victoria, on MON-

DAY, the 24th February instant, at 2.30 p.m., for the pur-
pose of receiving a Statement of Accounts, and

the Report of the General Managers, and to

elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will

be CLOSED from the 11th to the 24th

Instant, both days inclusive.

By Order,

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company,
Limited.

Hongkong, February 20, 1890. 206

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

IN CONSEQUENCE of the MEETING of the
HONGKONG & WHAMPoa DOCK COMPANY,

LIMITED, taking place the 24th instant,
at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon, it has been

found necessary for the convenience of
SHAREHOLDERS to alter the hour of the

Company's MEETING to 2.30 p.m., instead of
3 o'clock, as previously advertised.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will

be CLOSED from the 10th to the 24th

Instant, both days inclusive.

By Order,

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, February 20, 1890. 245

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCK
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Second Ordinary MEETING of the
Company will be held at the

HONGKONG HOTEL, on TUESDAY, the 26th

February, 1890, at 3 p.m., for the pur-
pose of receiving a Statement of the Directors
and a Statement of Accounts to 31st December,

1889.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will

be CLOSED from the 11th to the 25th

Instant, both days inclusive.

By Order,

A. G. GORDON & Co., Ltd.,
Managers.

Hongkong, February 10, 1890. 267

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa
DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Seventh Ordinary General MEET-
ING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held

at the Office of the Company, Praya

Central, on SATURDAY, the 9th March,

at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the

THE CHINA MAIL

very intricate manner, so that it is occasionally not a very easy matter to define the respective rights. We are willing to believe that Governor De Vouex, in sanctioning the unjust principle of division at first adopted, did so because Mr Price, for whatever was advising him, had failed to explain clearly the exact state of matters. When the rights of parties were unmistakably pointed out to him he conceded them. We trust that, the just claims of all interested, having now been fully acknowledged in principle, this great work will go on smoothly and speedily to a successful termination.

The Daily Press gravely attempts this morning to lecture the Acting Chief Justice on a question of law—with highly amusing result. His Lordship, the public is informed, ruled in a recent case that ‘because it is a custom of shroffs to use money they have collected for their employers, to do so does not constitute the crime of embezzlement.’ The simple question before the Court, we are told, ‘was one of right or wrong, and the Judge decided that it is not wrong for a servant to use his employer’s money.’ Further on the Judge’s lecture, after stating the case in his own way, proceeds to say—‘From this it follows that if a servant is sent to collect a bill and on his way back turns into a gambling house and loses the money, provided he makes a clean breast of it and does not practice concealment or falsify the account, he cannot be held to have committed any criminal offence.’ Now it is scarcely necessary to tell any one in this Colony that Judge Fielding Clarke never said anything like what our contemporary puts in his mouth, and that he has not traced embezzlement from the list of criminal offences. What was the case? The sheriff of a Chinese merchant, Ho Tim, utilized for trading purposes of his own, a portion of the rents he had collected for his master. It happened that on a certain date Ho Tim demanded a reckoning. The shroff admitted having received the rents, but was unable to pay the whole of the money collected. Ho was charged with embezzlement. Before the case was heard, he gave security to his master for the balance due and the latter was anxious to withdraw the charge. The case, however, went to the Supreme Court. There, the complainant stated in the witness box that it was the usual Chinese custom for shroffs to make a temporary use of the money they collected, that his shroff did not deny his liability and that he had accounted for all the money. The only legal and common sense inference from this was that Ho Tim accepted the services of his shroff well knowing and tacitly approving of the custom which existed among the Chinese. That being the case, no criminal offence existed; and even, if the shroff had not paid up the money, his master had only a civil remedy against him. Had, however, the complainant been a European who declared that no understanding existed as to the shroff trading with the money, that the duty of the shroff was to account for money as he collected it, and that the shroff had unauthorisedly appropriated the money for his own private purposes, the verdict would have been quite different. It would of course be impossible for the shroff to prove, in such a case, that any trading custom existed. What made the Judge direct the jury in the Ho Tim case to find a verdict of not guilty was the admission of the part of the complainant that he tacitly recognised the right of his shroff to trade with his money. To speak of shroffs being able to appropriate their employer’s money with impunity ‘provides that comply with the Acting Chief Justice’s condition of not falsifying the accounts and not practising concealment after they are found out,’ is pure nonsense. A resident, provided he had a good case, can quite easily, if he chooses, obtain a conviction against his shroff for embezzlement. In many cases, when the accountant pays up what he has appropriated, or when the deficiency is covered by security, merchants may choose to forego their right to institute criminal proceedings against their servants, and may even strive to facilitate the acquittal of the accused after arrest. Such a course of action is open to the objection that it saves somewhat of ‘compounding a felony’ but, in a Colony like Hongkong where honest collectors are scarce, and where we have to deal with a race who consider it no sin to use a master’s money for temporary needs of their own, a merchant may be excused if, not justified in renouncing his right to prosecute, on receiving full payment of the money appropriated by his shroff. His right—we perhaps ought to say duty—to prosecute still remains, and, as long as himself has not recognised, or the community generally accepted, the doctrine that the shroff is entitled to trade with accounts, he will most assuredly obtain a conviction against the defaulter.

TELEGRAMS
[SUPPLIED TO THE CHINA MAIL]
(Via Southern Line)

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

London, 10th February, 1890.

It is reported that Russia is again pressuring Turkey for payment of the war indemnity.

BISMARCK THREATENS TO RESIGN.

There were persistent rumours in the continental press that Prince Bismarck retires from the Prussian administration.

GERMAN CONQUEST IN EAST AFRICA.

A strong force under the command of Captain Wissmann, with magazine rifles and eighteen guns, starts in April for the interior of Africa.

RUSSIA ARMING.

Russia is building several ironclads and large cruisers.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

The Toronto University has been totally destroyed by fire.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.—Kars, Jan. 24; Crete, 27; Nisus, 31; Stavros, Feb. 7; Carches, Glenarvon, Scarpida, 11; Euboea, 14; Belmonte, 11; Andros, 14; Mytilene, 14; Kos, 14; Rhodes, 14; Chios, 14; Samos, 14; Smyrna, 14; Tenedos, 14; Ganges, Penderbroke, Feb. 4; Achillea, 7; Bayern, Davoudia, Iphigenia, 11; Benaki, Sagathon, 14.

The M. M. Co.’s steamer *Djedjima*, with the French mail of Jan. 25, left Singapore on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 3 p.m., and may be expected here on Thursday, the 27th inst. This packet brings replies to letters despatched from Hongkong on Dec. 18.

The O. & C. Co.’s s.s. *Oceanus*, with the American Mail of Feb. 4, left Yokohama on Saturday, the 22nd Feb., at 5 p.m., and may be expected here on or about Friday, Feb. 23.

The Canadian Pacific s.s. *Balaia* left Vancouver for Japan, &c., on the 13th Feb.

The P. & O. Co.’s extra steamer *Thistle*, from Bombay, left Singapore on the 17th Feb., and may be expected here on or about the 23rd Feb.

The s.s. *Ketsang*, from Calcutta, left Singapore on the 10th Feb., and may be expected here on or about the 20th Feb.

The China Shipper Mutual S. N. Co.’s steamship *Minchow*, from Glasgow and Liverpool, left Singapore on the 18th Feb., and may be expected here on or about the 24th Feb.

The s.s. *Glenfinn*, from Liverpool and London, left Singapore on the 20th Feb., and may be expected here on or about the 26th Feb.

The N. G. & A. *Boatia* left Singapore on the 21st Feb., and may be expected here on or about the 1st March.

ORDER OF CHORAL SERVICE AT ST. JOHN’S CATHEDRAL.—ITS HISTORY.

Matus.—Venite, Macaroni; Psalm, Ouseley; Turle, Jolley and Smart; Benediciti, Winchester; Jubilate, Wallens M.S. No. 3; Antiphon, Incline Thine ear to me; I. W.; Hymn, 92; Offertory, 232.

Evensong.—Paulus, Tonus Psalmodicus and Wicks; Cantate, Orach; Deus Misericordia; Goss; Hymns, 261, 254, & 21.

MESSRS CARLOWITZ & CO. inform us that the N. G. J. str. *Bornida* left Singapore yesterday, and is due here on the 1st March.

INTENDING competitors at the forthcoming Sports are reminded that entries close on 26th inst.

We would direct the attention of those interested to the Government Notification referring to artillery practice, which appears in to-night’s issue.

ACCORDING to the Shanghai version of the telegram abt the federation of the Australian Colonies, the union under one government is to be on the policy of neutrality, whatever that may mean.

That General Edwards’ absence from the swearing-in ceremony the other afternoon has been the subject of some talk, but I don’t fancy there is anything in it whatever.

That Mr Deane, as acting Colonial Secretary, will now have an opportunity of bringing his ability and experience to bear upon the direction of affairs in a more effective manner than he has done heretofore.

That the Governor’s despatch on the future of the Colony, copied with the despatch delivered by Mr William Kawick, ought to enlighten the British public as to the position and resources of the Malacca and Gilbaria of the East.

That General Kawick might have given us more satisfactory apology for the Hon. Government than he did give, and Mr Kawick’s views and warnings might then have lost some of their point.

That the ass. rance that shall continue to command the trust is doubtless intended to inspire confidence and induce a patient frame of mind while waiting for our much-needed guns.

That with its promised guns in place, Hongkong could be made almost impregnable upon a pinch, and strong enough to resist attack.

That without these guns the impregnability is not so well assured.

That now Hongkong residents will believe more in the ripe experience and far-sighted judgment of Mr Kawick as to the future, than in the bare assurances of official apologists.

That a merchant meets all sorts and conditions of men, has correspondence with the uttermost parts of the earth, and his interest lies in the study of probable events.

That as for military men, hampered by routine and official rules of reference, it is sometimes their duty not to reason why.

That the appearance of Sir J. P. Kennedy in the arena of diplomatic trials associated with years ago in our local Court of Chamber, and His Excellency’s ‘I am a member’ generally declaimed to see no error.

That the accused stated that he had found the opium concealed in a bush and was taking it to the police station.

Mr Spooner, Chief Excise officer, asked for a reward, and said he wished to prove that the water police were in the habit of getting snatched opium from steamers and selling it.

The reward was granted, bail being fixed at \$200.

An ingenuous son of the City of Rangoon had an inspiration the other day and devised what appears to be quite a new way of making a living. Having got possession of a copy of that aw-inspiring publication the Government Gazette, he assumed an air of official importance and went about in the character of a person appointed to engage a number of men to do government ‘piggy’ or steam-launch bands, the Gazette being produced as his authority. He demanded a premium of \$1.40 from each man he engaged, and two cases have come to light in which this sum was obtained. Luckily for him, however, he availed himself of opportunity to steal a bundle of clothing belonging to one of his caps and thus brought him into the hands of the police. The result is that he has now been provided with Government ‘piggy’ for himself which will require his presence in Victoria Gap for six months.

Banks were selling forward to-day at 208 to 211 for the end of March.

The U.S. men-of-war *Monroe* and *Monocacy* arrived at Shanghai on Saturday last, the former from Chinkiang and the latter from Chinkiang. The *Monocacy* went into Tungkang Dock.

RUSSIA ARMING.

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London, 10th February, 1890.

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BISMARCK THREATENS TO RESIGN.

There were persistent rumours in the continental press that Prince Bismarck retires from the Prussian administration.

for the good of Hongkong to remain a Crown Colony for many years, so long as the wishes of the inhabitants are carefully and conveniently consulted.

That instead of a Lighthouse Board, Mr McEwan should have asked for a Harbour Board, including the supervision of Lights and all such matters connected with shipping.

That the new Government form of trap has proved a trap indeed, and I am told there is hardly one in the Colony that is not shocked with the debauch of Chinese kitchens.

THE CHINA MAIL.

[No. 8461.—FEBRUARY 22, 1890.]

THE BARD'S FAREWELL.

(From the *Regimental News*)

Farewell, farewell for evermore,
My sin, my guilt all gallant corps,
My days with those are a'most o'er,
Fast, fast they fly,

I'm bound for dear old England's shore
Perhaps to die.

Farewell my dears, my cronies deav,
With whom I have spent many a year,
'Tis end tis time the' n' near,
Close, close at hand,

That I must go and leave ye here
In this land.

Plaged it man' bo', earth, sea, an' hill,
It's fu' o' favors, age, an' ill,

Typhoons, cyclones, and doctors bills
A halo guardin'.

For crannin' yo' dir' drugs and pills
Seasick with a rang.

Farwell the guid ship! Meaneas,
Long weary months I've been in theo
See wretched that I've wished to dee
And end the strife,

But thanks to Surgeon-Major B—
He saved my life.

The M.S. Corps I lang shall mind,
The sergeant and the S.M. kind,
And S.C.'s like yo' couldna' find
Search as ye will,

For sterling truth and worth combined
And mettlesome skill.

You lads that's left! I wish you well,
You needna' mourn for who's can tell
But the next year might tak' yeysel'

Fare over the sea,

Once more in Britain dear do dwell
Happy and free.

Farewell aneir mail, again farewell,
This parting lang my heart shal fool,

And when to God at night I knoo'.

I mind ye a',

Mind ye the same the rhyming chiel
That's fair aw."

JAM. ANDERSON, Private, C. Company.

LIU YUEH FANG, OR. A TRIP
TO THE MOON.

A CHINESE STORY.

(Translated specially for the *North-China
Daily News*.)

Tao Liu-ping belonged to an ancient and wealthy family of Wuling (Hangchow). Studious and intelligent, as a child he read and understood with facility. In the extensive grounds of the family demesne were groves, pavilions and artificial lakes, among which he delighted to pass the hours, never failing, as mirth-making festivals came round, to bring together the friends of his own age and tastes, when they would amuse themselves in writing and sketching, or reciting, or given words. Nor would he insist on the completion of a verse when one failed in his efforts. In the middle of the grounds was a lake of considerable extent, in which lourous, saffron and various water-lillies grow in profusion. One night in the early mid-autumn, when the moon shone with the brilliancy of day, the student sat alone in the pavilion on the lake, when he was startled by the soft and mournful music of pipes, proceeding, as it first seemed to him, from empty space. Stepping out of the pavilion he saw on the far off boundary of the lake a pleasure barge slowly advanced wrapt in clouds of many colours. In an ecstasy of joy he beckoned towards the boat, in the forward part of which stood smiling a man with a long flowing beard. It hasted the student gave orders to prepare the sacrificial table to welcome the host of the immortals, and bowed his head prostrate. Suddenly he saw his master was opposite the pavilion, and he could observe the occupants who were seated on either side. He with the flowing beard, clad in the robes of a Taoist priest, sat in the middle playing on a jade flute, the shrillness of whose notes would rend silk in twain; and near him, dressed in white, was seated a young man fanning himself gently, whose handsome appearance and graceful address are not often seen. On one side of the barge sat a lady in the attire of a Taoist nun; in her hand she held a cup of wine, but deep in thought she left it untested. Opposite her and seated together, were two maidens of seventeen or eighteen years of age. With her forehead resting on her hand one sat silent, while the other sang, to the accompaniment of a guitar which she played, a bewitching song of pathetic lamentation, of which her impromptu verses seemed never ending. Liu-ping gave orders to his terrified attendants that no one should be informed of what was going on, but that the gates of the enclosure should be locked, and more incense thrown away, and reverently attend to his master. Taking his card he went off in a small boat to receive them. The venerable personage with the flowing beard rose and smilingly welcomed him as he approached, saying: "Your visit, Sir, has long been ordained by fate!" Stepping up board, the student reverently entered the middle compartment of the barge where the youth dressed in white ceremoniously rose. "The seat on my left," he said, "has been empty long through the past awaiting your coming." Pointing to the lady attended as Taoist nun, he told him she was the fairy Mi-ku of the She mountains, who for two thousand years had not visited the earth; and she who was resting her forehead on her hand was the fairy Mou-shang-ching-assayin, in whose care were all the books of the world, and whose object now was to procure some of the first copy of the writing of "Tien-nan-tun-en," as it was reported that all he had written during his life was to be shortly published. And this is the fair "Feng-yün" he continued, pointing to the maid who was singing, "whose fate deserved your affiance twenty years ago." In an instant the music ceased, and the maid blushing deeply plucked a purple grape from a bunch lying on the table and threw it in the face of the youth, exclaiming: "Though together we have visited the world, why should you fabricate stories to shame me?" To which the youth laughingly rejoined, "I drink to your marriage and long life." The maiden hung her head and silently played with the edge of her girlish beauty and grace, and the elegance of her attire, charming the heart of the student who was observing her. The youth then drank a bumper to each saying, "I drink to your betrothal"; the student responding by emptying his cup, and Feng-yün in her confusion wished there was no earth beneath her, that she might sink out of sight. Her modesty, the student noted, was not quite absent at her, increased her charms. The venerable personage with the flowing beard here interposed, rebuking them for having so hastyly introduced the question of betrothal, which, he remarked, showed want of taste. "Let us," he said, "have these cups cleared away and fresh ones brought, and any one again introducing the subject will be punished by the law of the 'Golden tankard'." Upon which he took his seat by the side of the fairy Mi-ku, and the youth dressed in white sat with Feng-yün. Feng-yün hung back and attempted to escape, but he with the flowing beard observing her, filled a goblet of green jade and called out, that unless the two were prepared to drink three bumphers, the

sight of her retiring could not be done. Whenupon she took a seat by the side of the student. And so they all grieved as they played more and drank till presently the youth in white exclaimed: "Moonlight on the Western Lake en such a night as this must be still more lovely! Let us go and see." The personage with the long beard consenting, the boatmen were told to ply their oars quickly, and in a little while they were upon it. The limpid water stretched before them like silk, and a stillness unbroken by any sound was around them. They passed by the six bridges, and by willows wrapped in mist, hastening in the refreshing breeze, and in sight of life, save the face of a number of fisherman, who had been fishing there as they reached the Bensouly river, through whose polluted water the boatmen had to pass. The great cold, however, was more than the student could endure, and he shivered and his teeth chattered, till the fairy Feng-yün drew forth from her sleeve a garment which she gave him, saying: "We shall presently arrive at the Palace of the Moon where the cold is much greater." The student donned the garment, which was seamless and of matchless texture; smooth, glossy and light, he was astonished at the warmth it gave him, and he thanked the maiden for her gift. The youth in white laughingly remarked: "The little act alone is sufficient to show that this garment is your beloved betrothed." While he was yet speaking, they reached the river which flows before the Palace of Immortals told. Countless cactus trees in full bloom were growing on its

banks, and the air was redolent with their fragrance, while the rest of the blossoms covered the trees so that the water looked like a picture. Fastening the barge to the bank, they all landed for a ramble. The Palace of the Moon, which comes into sight on passing through a porch, was made of pure crystal, and the doings of anyone within it could be distinctly seen from the outside. To the west rose a building of immense height, its summit reaching the empyrean heavens and milky way.

It was called the Tower of the Seven Precious Things, being built of gold, silver and different gems. Hero Chang-ngo dwelt, and thither the youth dressed in white repaired to inform her of his presence of mortal and to obtain her consent to his visit, and also to express his gratitude for the loan of the barge which he now returned. Chang-ngo had just returned from the Lake of Genie and was still clothed in her robes of immortality. Her face was flushed the colour of a fresh crab-apple when she deep blossoms, from which she had not yet recovered, and she was seeking a cool place where she might sleep off the effects. Feng-yün and Feng-yün pressed forward with polite enquiries. "Does my sister Feng-yün," enquired Chang-ngo, "know when she leaves us for her abode

among the mortals in fulfilment of the fate of her former existence?" Feng-yün's eyes glinted with tears and she could make no reply.

"The day is not far off," answered Feng-yün, "for her heart's desire is before you."

Chang-ngo again spoke to Feng-yün and smiled benignly on her.

The student then, accompanied by the youth dressed in white, set out for a stroll, during which they came to a field several miles from the town, covered with wild apricots. Enquiring what these were the youth told him that they were white jade growing in wild places. "It is called the Apple Field of Growing Jade," he said, "and I am bringing up two pieces and presenting them to the student. They will serve you in the future as your betrothal presents." Leaving the enclosure they came to the river where their boat had been left, but the student saw with consternation that it was no longer there, and asked the youth how he was to return. The youth smiling, put his hand on the shoulder, "With such a helpmate as you have in your betrothed," said he, "why trouble yourself with the care of mortals! Would you mount the phoenix, or bestride a stork, or ride on the back of the dragon? Express but a wish, and it will be instantly and graciously gratified, and you will at once pass through the void." Glancing

back the student saw Feng-yün seated on a rock in the shadow of a willow tree. "Do you wish to return, or would you remain here?" she asked. "I would return," he answered. "Then your handmaiden may not accompany you," she said. "For three years hence in the year of Hauko a stranger will appear, desiring to have her self for judge, and will match the pieces he

will for judge, and all will be accomplished."

"Bear this well in mind and do not fail."

Gathering a handful of cassia seed she folded them in her handkerchief and gave them to the student, saying, "At early dawn take these in pure well-water and you will be benefited." Spreading a handkerchief she bade the student stand upon it. In an instant it was changed into a cloud and rose with him. Closing his eyes he heard the roar of wind and rain and rushing of water as he was carried onward. Venturing at last to open his eyes, he found himself at the same moment landed on terra firma on the road leading to Shao-hsing. Looking to his purse he found he had enough to defray his expenses to Hangchow.

But he returned now to his first disappearance. The handmaiden had anticipated evil when he first went off to the barge, and their fears were increased as he did not return and no sound came from him, the barge meanwhile drifting about and finally ascending. Loudly his people called to him, and implored the gods to save him, as he rose higher and higher, till he was at last lost to view. Some thought the fairies had taken him and others who professed to understand such things, said that wicked enchanters had used their nefarious arts to make away with him; and not a day passed but the gods were petitioned, and the oracle consulted to gain tidings of him. At length he returned, and their grief was equalled by their joy. They told him his story in detail, and then they knew for certain that the fairies had taken him. Three years slowly passed during which time he had taken to himself a wife. Coming of a good family she was clear of many virtues. Hearing of the engagement he had made with the fairy hour she insisted on his fulfilling it. "Such an engagement with the immortals," she said, "must be observed. How should I dare to oppose it? Have no misgivings, my lord, I myself shall prepare your nuptial chamber and wait upon her." Taking the jade with him he proceeded to Hangchow in quest of his betrothed, when he engaged a female negotiator whom he instructed to make inquiries as to whether a stranger to the town was offering herself for sale, and at last found her in this wife. The widow of a late major in the army who had been killed in battle, finding she could not live amicably with the relations of her deceased husband, opened an establishment of singing girls who were widely celebrated for their beauty, though she herself was old, fat and without single attraction. One day a girl of fifteen or sixteen presented herself crying admission, declaring she had lost her way and could not return to her home. Being admitted and having exchanged for a more becoming costume, the widow saw with boundless delight such beauty revealed that she regarded her as the true queen of the realm of wealth. Her extraordinary beauty and graceful manners, the dazzling whiteness of her teeth, and her sparkling eyes, bespoke her as one of the immortals. She was regarded with the greatest fondness by her sisterhood and not a day passed but she was engaged for singing or playing the guitar, her fame spreading far, and presents being lavished upon her. Many were the offers she received, and gladly many of her suitors would have paid any sum of money to have induced her to alter the manner of dressing her hair to a more matronly style. "I belong not to this world," she said to the widow, "but have come here in search of the lucky man whose fate has decreed I shall belong to. Shall I, a spotless lily, throw myself into the mire as you would have me?" Producing two pieces of jade she offered herself to the one who could match them. In a few days now of her offer spread far and near, and innumerable were the aspirants who came forward, officials and famous scholars, young with eager desire to match the jade, but one and all left without hope when they saw its flawless perfection. At length the report reached the ears of Liu-ping, who lost no time in presenting himself, and producing the two pieces of jade he possessed the similarity was at once apparent, and the mind of the maiden set at rest. On her leaving with the student for his home, the widow wept loudly, and clinging to her begged to be taken with her. At the request of Feng-yün the student gave her three thousand taels of silver which would be more than sufficient to keep her for the remainder of her days. Feng-yün lived happily with the wife of the student, who was constantly giving her rare and costly presents. "That you should have found me where you did," she explained to Liu-ping, "was because I hoped by being kindly spoken of you might hear of me. Since you found me there, you have learnt that virtuous girls may be found even among such a class. Knowing it was he had met in the garden beside the Palace of the Pleasure Barge of the Moon (and styled her the Pleasure Barge of the Moon) and styled her the Everlasting Orchid."

She told him that the venerable personage with the flowing beard was Chang-ngo, the Kung Ch'ing-tzu, and that the youth dressed in white was Wang Ts'a-ping.

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